Norodom Sihanouk and what impact it will have on the solution of the Kampuchean problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) India took part in a Meeting of Senior Officials from selected nonaligned countries in New Delhi on 15-16 July, 1988 to explore the possibility of a nonaligned initiative to resolve the Kampuchea problem. A follow-up meeting of Senior Officials from these countries is tentatively scheduled to be held later in Harare.

(b) India stands for a negotiated political solution of this problem. We would like to see the emergence of a peaceful, independent, sovereign and nonaligned Kampuchea. We supported the Jakarta informal Meeting from July 25-28 this year which we regard as complementary to a possible nonaligned initiative that may be taken in future.

India played a role in bringing about talks between Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen in December 1987/Jan. 1988. At those talks, there was mention of the possibility of Delhi as a venue for a meeting between the two in future. India believes that the Sihanouk-Hun Sen dialogue offers another possible means of promoting a settlement.

(c) Prince Sihanouk had resigned on earlier occasions too. He is a statesman and patriot who has a key role to play in a Kampuchea settlement. We have noted his latest decision. He must have had good reasons for it.

Decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Plants

*134. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian scientists have perfected technology for decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Plants at the end of their life span;

(b) what are the plans for disposing off the nuclear waste; and

(c) when the life span of Tarapur Nuclear Power Plant is scheduled to end and what is the plan for decommissioning it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Technological options for decommissioning nuclear power plants are available and these are based on experience in some of the countries where decommissioning of reactors has been carried out.

(b) The disposal methods are based on the type of wastes. The guiding principle is treatment, immobilisation, containment and surveillance.

(c) The Tarapur Nuclear Power Station will be completing its economic life in 1994-95. However, the station is expected to operate for a longer time and the date of decommissioning will be decided having regard to the performance of various plant components.

Proposal to send IAS officers to USA, UK and France for training

*135. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite criticism and opposition at various levels, Government propose to send IAS and other senior services officers to USA, UK and France for training;

(b) if so, whether such type of training facilities are not available within the country;

(c) what steps have been taken to remove these deficiencies to make the